#### Slice Shear Force

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#### History of slice shear force

- Tenderness classification
- Tool for routine measurement of longissimus tenderness
- Potential tool for use on other muscles?

#### Tenderness classification

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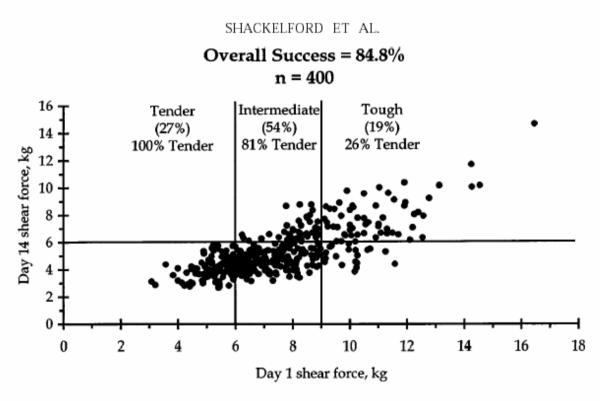
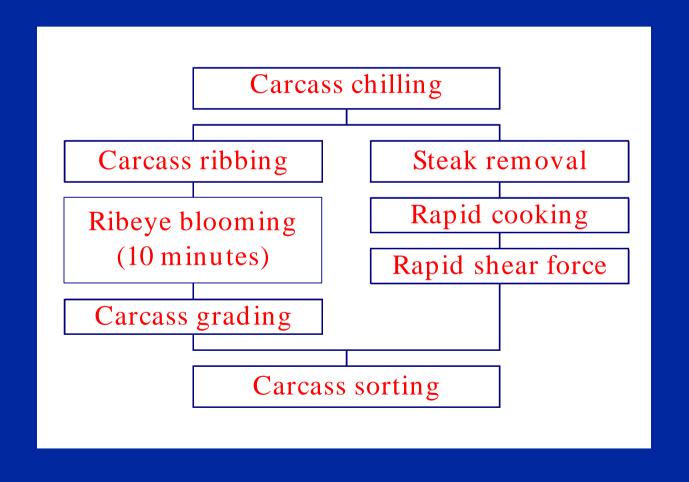


Figure 1. Tenderness classification of laboratory-slaughtered beef carcasses (Exp. 1). Parenthetical values indicate the percentage of carcasses in each tenderness class.

#### Tenderness classification



# Develop of a method to automate the process of removing 1 cm diameter cores from a longissimus steak

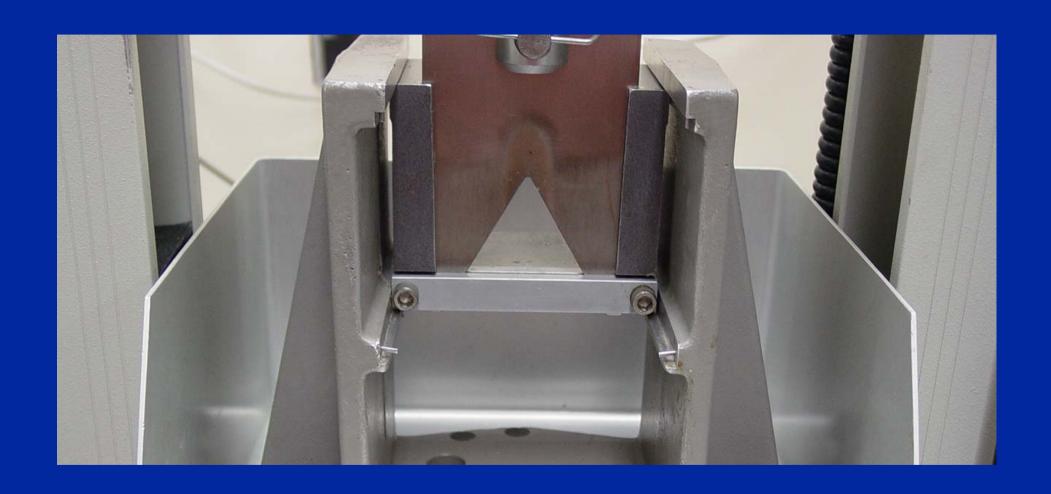


# Develop of a method to automate the process of removing 1 cm diameter cores from a longissimus steak

No feasible solution

We concluded that the best we could do was obtain a single slice from each steak.

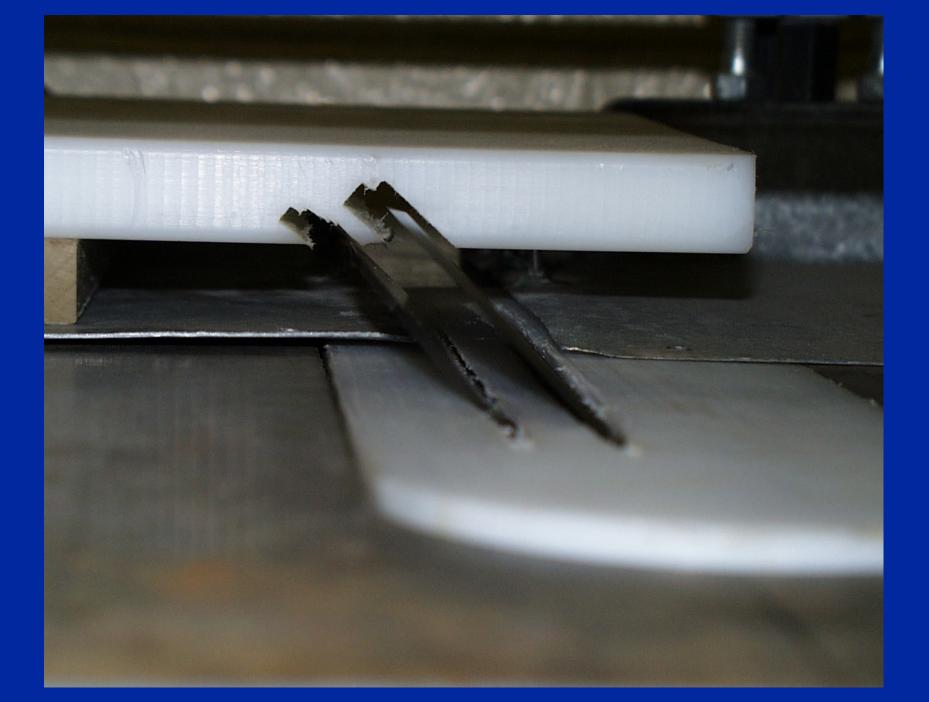
• The dimensions of that slice would be limited by ribeye size and ....



### Fiber angle









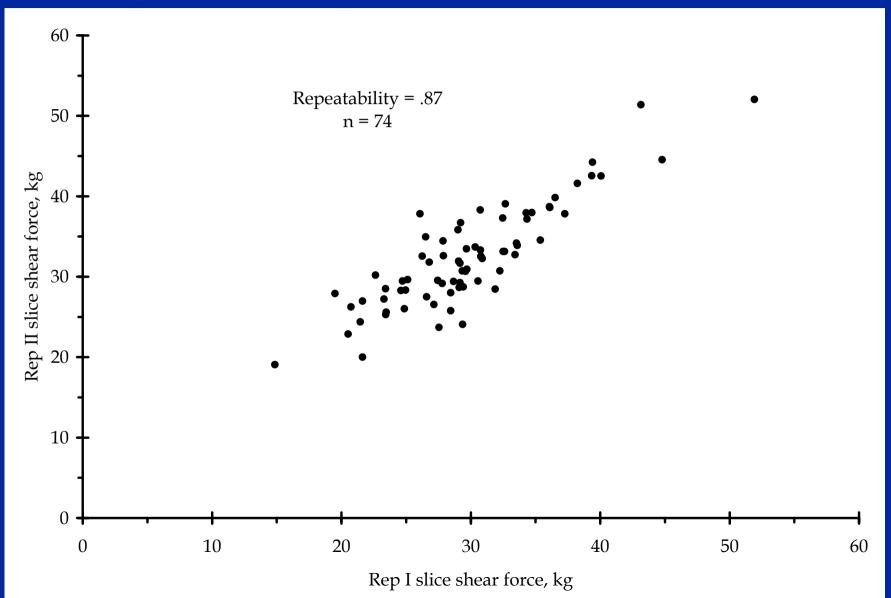
#### Slice shear force



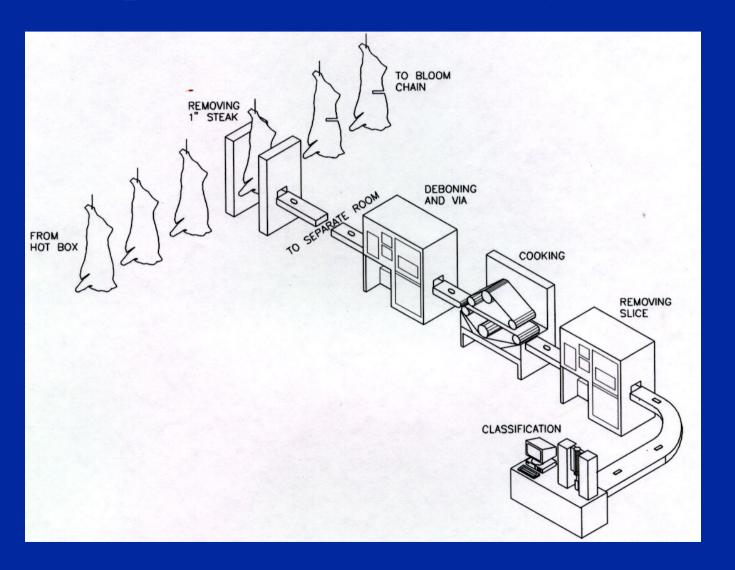
#### Universal testing machine with 100 kg load cell



#### Repeatability of slice shear force

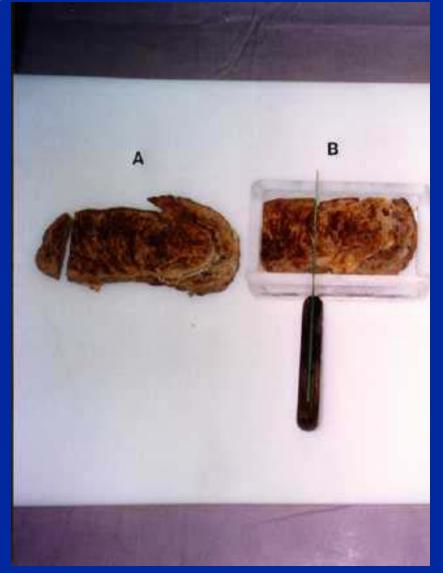


#### Proposed automated system



#### Manual method for small scale plants

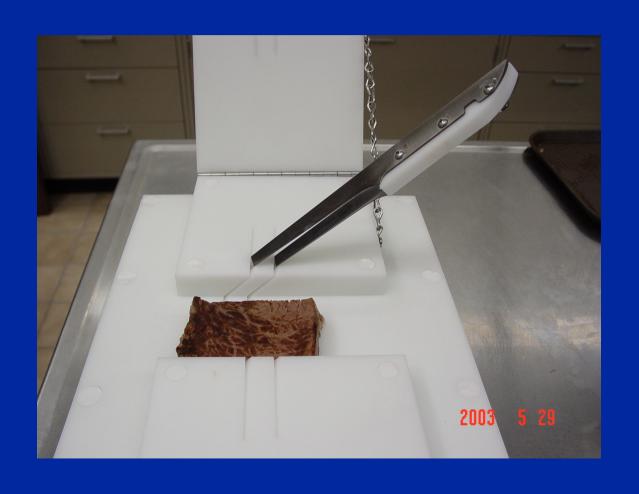
Obtaining 1 cm-thick, 5 cm-long slice



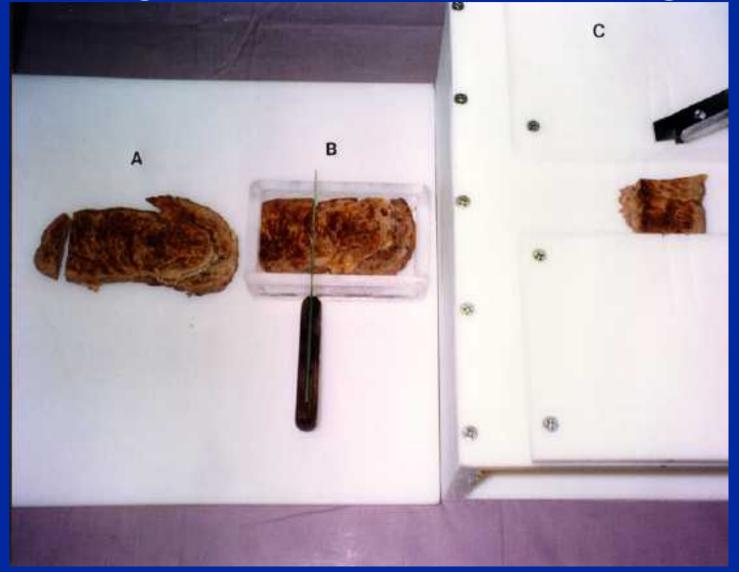
#### Muscle fiber orientation in slice box



#### Slice box and double bladed knife



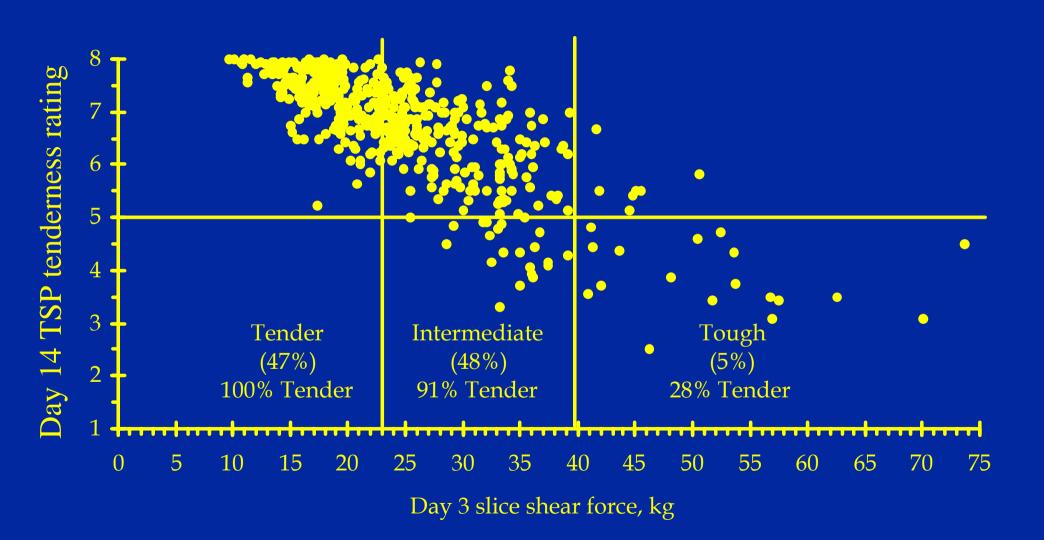
Obtaining 1 cm-thick, 5 cm-long slice



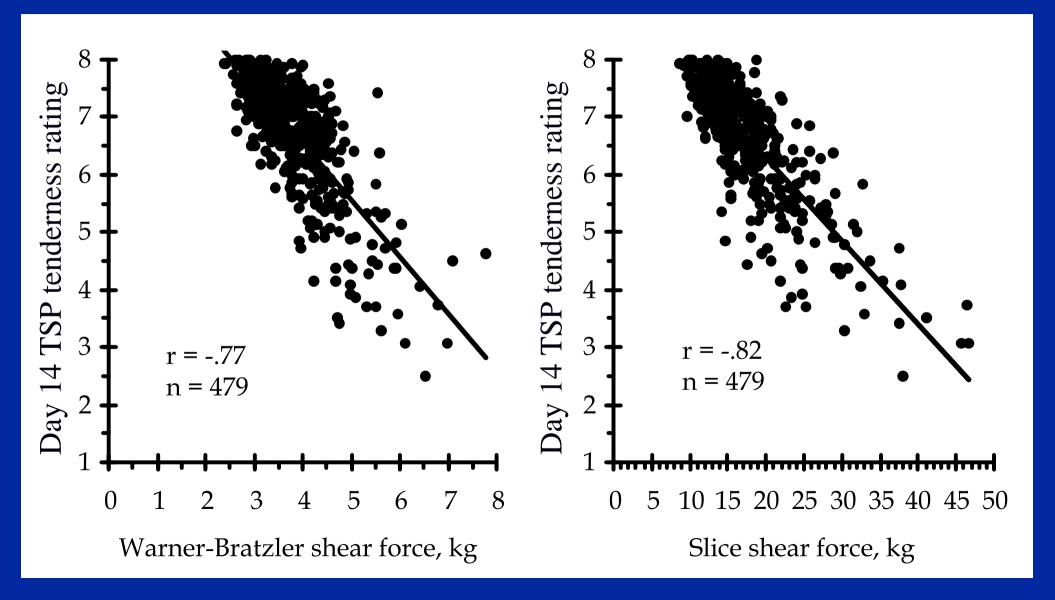
#### Slice shear force



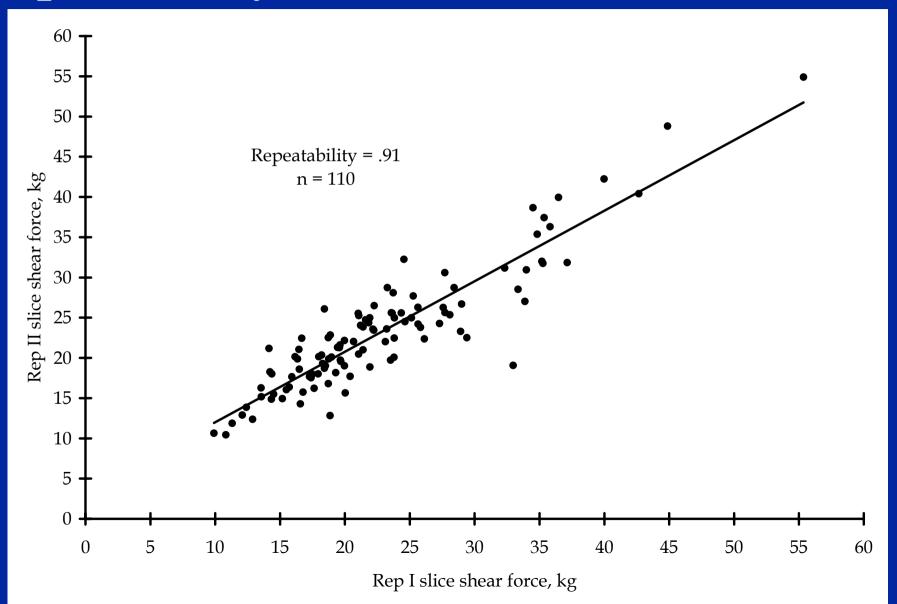
#### Overall success = 94.4%, n = 483



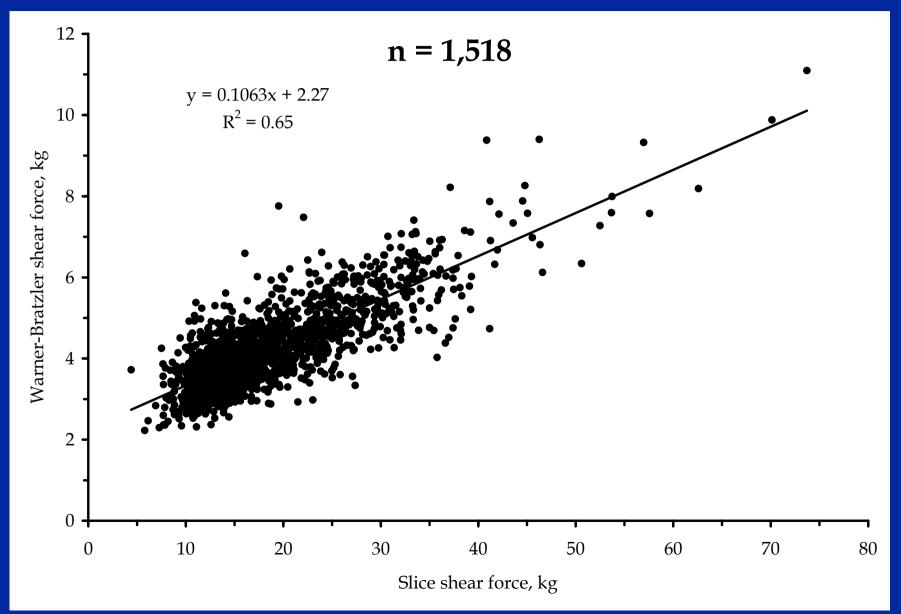
#### Correlation of WBSF and SSF with SPT



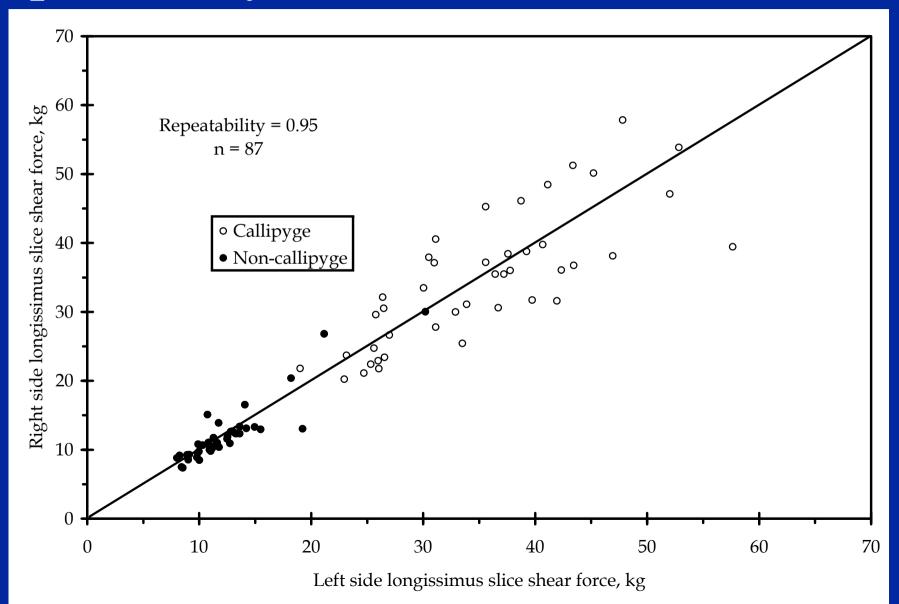
#### Repeatability of slice shear force for beef

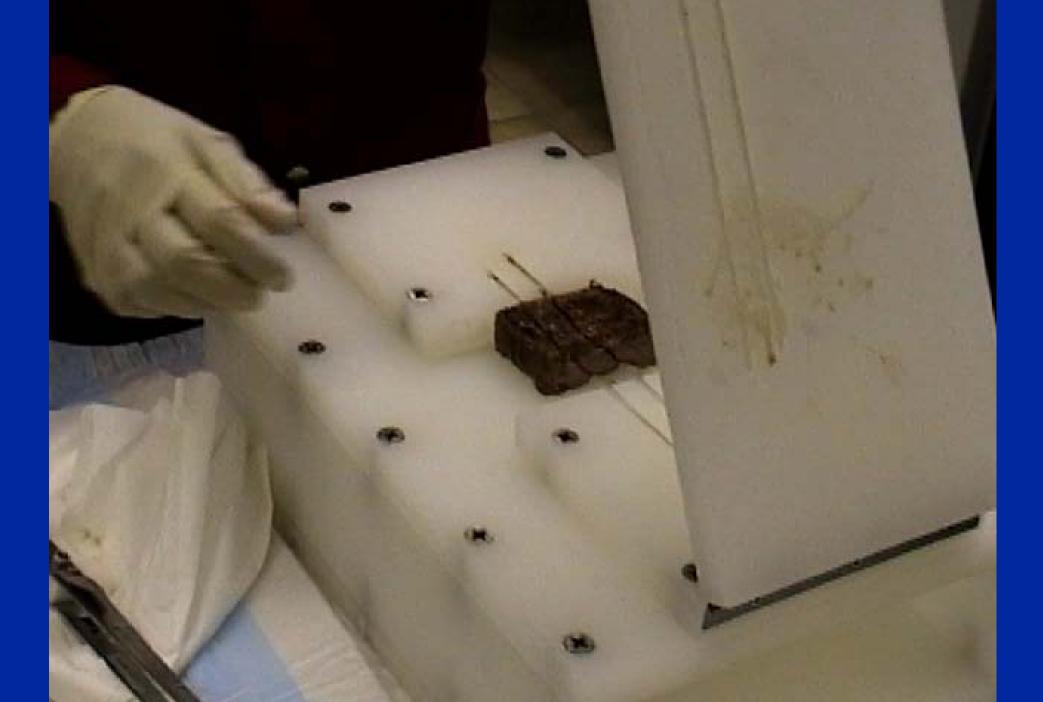


#### Conversion of SSF to WBS

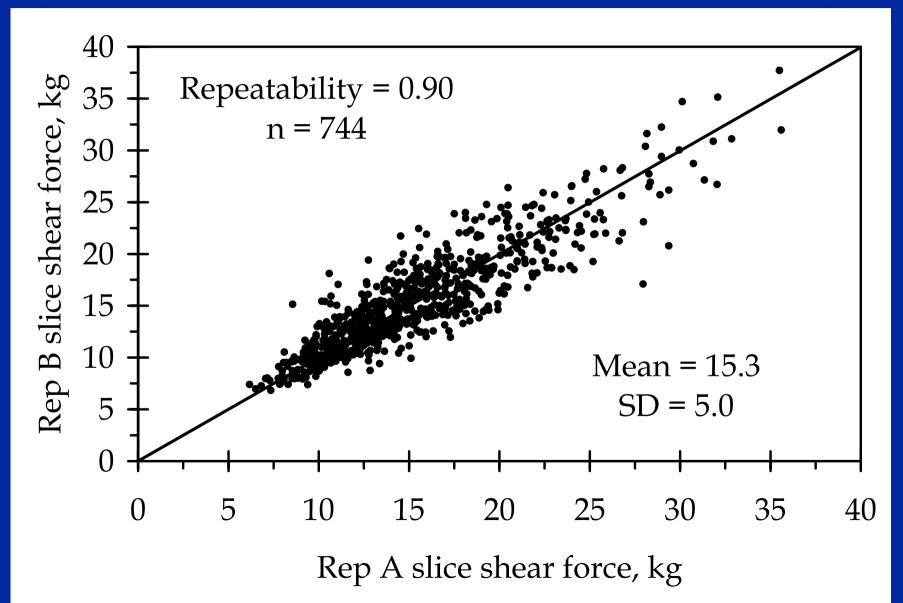


#### Repeatability of slice shear force for lamb





#### Repeatability of slice shear force for pork





**Meeting Summary** 

### NATIONAL BEEF INSTRUMENT ASSESSMENT PLAN II

Focus on Tenderness

#### Summary

- Consumers can detect differences in beef tenderness and some consumers are willing to pay a premium for guaranteed tender beef.
- Industry needs to begin implementing Slice
   Shear Force in as many plants as possible to
   get baseline tenderness data so that sources of
   variation and approaches for improving
   tenderness consistency can be identified.
- Development of non-invasive approaches for tenderness prediction should continue.
- The contribution of many factors to tenderness variation are still not clear.
- Slice Shear Force at 14 days postmortem should be adopted as the end point measurement of tenderness.

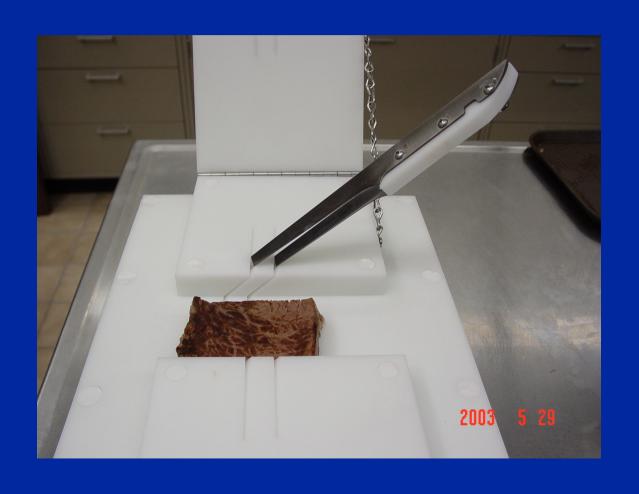
#### Standardized equipment

- •To help insure consistency across institutions
- •Available from Gessford Machine Shop, Hastings, NE

### Sample sizing box



#### Slice box and double bladed knife



#### Slice blade



## Papers and protocols available at http://meats.marc.usda.gov

